



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masahiro YAMAMOTO

Serial No: 09/648,372

Filed: August 25, 2000

For: PATTERN INSPECTION APPARATUS,
PATTERN INSPECTION METHOD, AND
RECORDING MEDIUM

Group Art Unit: 2623

Examiner: Vikkram Bali

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DEC 17 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of August 13, 2003, with a period for response being extended through December 13, 2003 with a Petition for Extension of Time and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as shown below and, further, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration in view of the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 14 in this paper.

Remarks begin on page 19 of this paper.

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